# Divisions of Boating and Waterways, Historic Preservation and Off-Highway Vehicles

# News Release



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# Dockwalker Program to Begin 15<sup>th</sup> Year of Trainings in the Spring

Volunteers Help Keep California's Waterways Clean

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) and Coastal Commission's Boating Clean and Green Program invite boaters to become volunteer Dockwalkers. Trainings are set to begin in mid-March and run through early May 2015. Training is free, and requires pre-registration.

"Dockwalking is a fantastic way to interact with boaters to help keep California's marinas, waterways, and ocean clean and healthy," stated DBW's Acting Deputy Director Christopher C. Conlin. "It is rewarding for them to know that their efforts now will help future generations enjoy clean waterways. Dockwalkers continue to make a positive impact on California's waterways."

Since 2000, more than 700 volunteers across the State have become Dockwalkers, distributing over 100,000 <u>boater kits</u> throughout California. Partnerships with the Bay Foundation (DBW Clean Vessel Act Program), the Keep the Delta Clean Program, the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, the US Power Squadrons, and many more organizations have made this program successful.

Volunteer Dockwalkers educate boaters to be safe and environmentally sound while boating in California. They are trained to conduct face-to-face boater education and distribute boater kits with educational information while visiting marinas, boat launch ramps, boat shows, and events. Hours spent training and educating the public may qualify as community service.

Marinas and yacht clubs are also encouraged to participate in the Dockwalker Program. Involvement in this program provides them with the educational materials and tools to operate

a clean boating facility and minimize water quality impacts. In addition, the yacht clubs and marinas can help spread awareness directly to boaters.

The Boating Clean and Green Program is an education and outreach program conducted through the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways and California Coastal Commission. The program promotes environmentally-sound boating practices to marine business and boaters.

To become a volunteer, please contact the program coordinator, Vivian Matuk, at (415) 904-6905, Vivian.Matuk@coastal.ca.gov, or visit www.BoatingCleanandGreen.com for more details and to view the full 2015 Dockwalker Training Schedule.

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### California State Parks Mission

To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.

## Division of Boating and Waterways Mission

To Provide safe and convenient public access to California's waterways and leadership in promoting safe, enjoyable and environmentally sound recreational boating.

### California Coastal Commission Mission

To protect, conserve, restore and enhance environmental and human-based resources of the California coast and ocean for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations.